

## Hague Caught in Storm Stirred by Hall Fiasco

By ROBERT M. GRANNIS

With charges that the new investigation of the Hall-Mills case was a gigantic political plot to further the interests of the Democratic party and demands for a legislative probe of Hudson county spreading like wildfire through New Jersey, all eyes are focussed on Mayor Frank Hague of Jersey City, undisputed boss of county politics for the past ten years.

Developments in the past twenty-four hours in various parts of the state indicate there will be a strenuous campaign in the January session of the Legislature to crack the Democratic hold in Hudson county by means of bills designed to clip the claws of the Hague leaders.

It is no secret in Hudson county that many Democrats are waiting for the psychological moment to withdraw their support from the present regime. State Senator Alexander Simpson, a stanch Democrat, himself under fire for an alleged election fraud, already has lashed out at Gov. Harry Moore, who brought about Simpson's appointment as special prosecutor of the Hall-Mills case.

### Attacks Moore

In a published statement he severely criticized Gov. Moore and Attorney General Katzenbach for not consulting him before they agreed to nolle prosse the remaining indictments in the famous murder case.

Possibilities of a probe of Hudson county lie in two directions. Some Republicans demand a cleanup of alleged election irregularities which have been reported by the wholesale in the past few campaigns. The other is on the basis of the Hall-Mills case.

Last winter a mass of evidence on alleged election frauds was dug

up, but no action was taken because of the wall which has been built up around those involved. In the past few days, Frank B. Chapman, a Republican challenger, and Alfred Axelrod of West New York, N. J., have openly accused Senator Simpson of being the center of one of these cases. This phase of the situation is now in the hands of Prosecutor of Pleas John Milton.

### Case Eager for Probe

Senator Case of Somerset county, one of the defense counsel in the Hall-Mills trial, is credited with intimating that a probe would be timely.

"If Hudson county politicians, speaking through their senator, are really asking for an investigation," Case is quoted as saying, "we'll give them all they want."

With but two years left for him in the mayoralty chair and possibilities of a split in the Democratic ranks, Hague stands at the most critical point in a hectic career. Past campaign issues loom again as the basis for unrest in the party which is taking definite form.

### \$760,000 FOR WATERWAYS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.—Allotments of \$560,000 for improvement work on the Missouri River, between Kansas City and the river mouth, and the sum of \$200,000 for work on Wrangell Narrows, Alaska, were made by the War Department.

## Smith Wins Fight To Save State's Water Power

ALBANY, Dec. 10.—Gov. Smith won his fight for the state to retain control of its hydro-electric resources when the Machold-Carlisle-Northeastern Power Corporation withdrew its application to the Water Control Commission for the creation of a river regulating district on the Salmon River. Gov. Smith The Aluminum-du Pont-General Electric combination withdrew its application for a St. Lawrence River power site on Tuesday. The action of the state Power

Commission in accepting the withdrawals, party leaders say, will have the effect of placing on Gov. Smith the entire responsibility for evolving during his next administration a definite counter proposal for utilizing the state's hydro-electric resources.

Gov. Smith said yesterday he would not make a public statement on water power until he discusses his plans before the Survey Associates in New York Monday night, but it is understood he has in mind a definite program embracing new ideas on the subject.

### PROF. COLT TO RESIGN

Prof. John Colt of the Princeton department of politics has announced that he intended to quit his faculty post to become first vice-president of the Princeton Bank and Trust Company. Prof. Colt was graduated from Princeton in 1914 and served with the A. E. F. as second lieutenant.

## Hope for Rescue Of 14, Entombed By Blast in Mine

PRINCETON, IND., Dec. 10.—The wives and children of fourteen miners, trapped in the Francisco Mine, No. 2, by the explosion which killed twenty of their comrades, anxiously awaited their rescue today.

Rescue workers experienced great difficulty in reaching the men known to be trapped in the 300-foot shaft. Although fans were constantly pumping air into this part of the wrecked area, rescue teams had to be changed every fifteen minutes. Of thirty-seven rescued, many were so seriously burned that they may die. Seventy-one men were in the mine when the blast, apparently due to gas, occurred. Thirteen were uninjured.

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